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TRAINING AND RESEARCH: UNITED NATIONS INSTITUTE FOR TRAINING AND RESEARCH

PROGRAMME BUDGET FOR THE BIENNIUM 1994-1995

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.46

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. By operative paragraphs 4 and 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.46, the General Assembly would:

(a) Request the Secretary-General to provide, free of charge and without financial implications for the United Nations, office space in Geneva, within existing means, as well as the usual logistic and administrative support for the United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

(b) Also request the Secretary-General to provide, free of charge and without financial implications for the Institute, liaison office space in New York, and request within this context, the Board of Trustees to give the necessary attention to the matters with a view to avoiding any negative financial impact on the Institute.

2. It will be recalled that in paragraphs 2 and 3 of resolution 47/227 the General Assembly decided, that in accordance with the recommendations of the high-level consultant, as approved by the Board of Trustees of the United Nations Institute for Training and Research and by the Secretary-General in his report (A/47/458), as at 1 January 1993, the funding of all the administrative budget and the training programmes of the Institute would be covered from voluntary contributions, donations, special-purpose grants and executing agency overheads.

3. In paragraph 2 of resolution 48/207 the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to examine, in accordance with paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 47/227, the measures taken in 1993 with a view to improving further the organization and coordination of the training programmes and research activities relating to training in New York, and to provide appropriate logistical and administrative support, within existing resources.

4. In the statement of programme budget implications of resolution 48/207 (A/C.2/48/L.84), the Secretary-General indicated that:

(a) The provision of office space in New York and Geneva, as well as the usual logistical and administrative support for the Institute, including senior fellows, would involve expenditures for rental and maintenance of office equipment, communications and miscellaneous services;

(b) In accordance with paragraph 5 of article VI of the Statute of UNITAR and as decided by General Assembly resolution 47/227, all such expenditures would have to be covered from voluntary contributions, donations, special-purpose grants and executing agency overheads available to UNITAR, and not from the United Nations regular budget. Moreover, all expenditures from such funds would require the prior review and approval of related budgets by the Board of Trustees of UNITAR, in accordance with paragraph 2 of article III and paragraph 1 of article VIII of the Statute;

(c) If the United Nations Institute for Training and Research were unable to cover the expenditures regarding office space and the cost of the usual logistical and administrative support, the Secretary-General would not be authorized to cover such costs from the regular budget of the United Nations and all logistical and administrative expenditures, including supporting activities of senior fellows, provision of office space in Geneva and New York and other support services, would have to be financed exclusively from voluntary contributions, donations, special-purpose grants and executing agency overheads of UNITAR, if such resources were available.

5. With regard to the requests contained in paragraphs 4 and 5 of draft resolution A/C.2/49/L.46, since the United Nations has to rent office space both in New York and Geneva, the provision of office space to UNITAR in New York and Geneva, as well as the usual logistical and administrative support, would entail financial implications involving expenditures for the rental and maintenance of offices and office equipment, communications and miscellaneous services. These cannot be provided free of charge or without financial implications to the United Nations.

6. Since it is not possible to cover such costs from the regular budget of the United Nations, the provision of office space in Geneva and New York as well as the usual logistic and administrative support to UNITAR will have to be financed exclusively from voluntary contributions, donations, special-purpose grants and executing agency overheads of UNITAR, unless the General Assembly should decide otherwise.